

Cañada ASGC Resolution: Establishing Class Enrollment Maximums

WHEREAS, By establishing appropriate student-to-instructor ratios, discipline faculty ensure the quality of instruction and provide a learning environment in which each student can contribute to and participate in their own learning and the learning of their peers; and

WHEREAS, Idealized low student-to-instructor ratios are not always compatible with the reality of the structure and funding of higher education thereby necessitating the consideration of multiple factors when establishing course enrollment maximums; and

WHEREAS, The Academic Senate of the California Community Colleges (ASCCC) has resolved that “discipline faculty at local colleges determine [course enrollment maximums] for each of their courses based on pedagogical and health and safety factors, such as but not limited to the methods of instruction, course modality, objectives and outcomes of the course, the assessment methods as established on the course outline of record (COR), and fire codes;”¹ and

WHEREAS, The ASCCC has adopted a position paper Setting Course Enrollment Maximums: Process, Roles, and Principles² providing guidelines for local academic senates, curriculum committees, collective bargaining agents, and administration to assist discipline faculty in the determination of course enrollment maximums that facilitate the attainment of student success; and

WHEREAS, Cañada College does not have a mechanism to ensure that course enrollment maximums are being established with full consideration of pedagogical factors nor does the college document these course enrollment maximums in CORs;

RESOLVED, That the Academic Senate of Cañada College charge the Curriculum Committee to include as part of the regular curricular review cycle the determination of a Pedagogical Course Enrollment Maximum by discipline faculty in consultation with the Curriculum Committee; and

RESOLVED, That the Academic Senate of Cañada College charge the Curriculum Committee to work with the Office of Instruction to document the Pedagogical Course Enrollment Maximum in such a way that the information is provided to college administrators during schedule development; and

RESOLVED, That the Academic Senate of Cañada College recommend that the college administration not exceed the documented Pedagogical Course Enrollment Maximum when scheduling courses; and

RESOLVED, That the Academic Senate of Cañada College request that the college administration follow the guidelines for consultation that are described in the ASCCC position paper Setting Course Enrollment Maximums: Process, Roles, and Principles and provide the Curriculum Committee with written justification for cases in which the Pedagogical Course Maximum is exceeded.

Adopted 05/20/16

¹ ASCCC Resolution 13.04, Fall 2009, <http://www.asccc.org/resolutions/class-caps-based-pedagogical-factors>

² <http://www.asccc.org/papers/setting-course-enrollment-maximums-process-roles-and-principles>